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FLOOR DEBATE

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audit reports to the Auditor of Public Accounts within six months. Housing authorities are required by federal law to maintain and report their financial information in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles which require accrual accounting. Accrual accounting does not allow the authority to close their financial statements immediately after the year end, as they are not yet aware of all of the items that may require accrual, such as utility bills, that cover the fiscal year but are not received until 15 days after the fiscal year ends. A draft audit report is generally submitted to the housing authority for review and approval. Some authorities require their boards to approve the draft, which would occur at the next scheduled meeting. Some boards meet less frequently than others, preventing this process to move forward in a timely manner. Federal regulation also allows 270 days to submit their audit. Actually, what this bill does then is just changing the requirement from the six months to the nine months, and I urge your support of LB 150 and would certainly be happy to answer any questions. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Mr. Clerk, are there committee amendments?

ASSISTANT CLERK: Madam President, I do have amendments from the Urban Affairs Committee, AM0116. (Legislative Journal page 389.)

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you. Senator Hartnett, you're recognized to open on the committee amendments.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Madam President, members of the body, I was unclear when the bill was introduced, because some housing...or some of these bodies only have to do it, audit, every...sometimes do it every two years. This, the amendment, just simply specifies each fiscal year in which such agency is required to file an audit report or in which an audit report of such agent (sic) is prepared. So it simply clarifies that it's only when they have to have the audit report, so I simply ask for the adoption of this amendment.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Senator Stuhr, your light is next.